

Massachusetts Department of Correction

Quarterly Report on the Status of Prison Overcrowding, Second Quarter of 1996

Submitted in Compliance with Chapter 799
Section 21 of the Acts of 1985

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Commissioner

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1996 Second Quarter Report

Section Twenty-one of Chapter 799 of the Acts of 1985 directs the Commissioner of Correction to report quarterly on the status of overcrowding in the state and county facilities. This statute calls for the following information:

Such report shall include, by facility, the average daily census for the period of the report and the actual census on the second and last days of the report period. Said report shall also contain such information for the previous twelve months and a comparison to the rated capacity of such facility.

This report presents the required statistics for the second quarter of 1996.

This report was prepared by Ramon V. Raagas of Research & Planning and is based on daily count sheets prepared by the Classification Division.

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Technical Notes

→ The official capacity or custody level designation for each facility can change for a number of reasons, e.g. expansion of facility beds, decrease of facility beds due to fire, or changes in contracts with vendors. In all tables the capacity and custody level reflects the status at the end of the reporting period. The design capacity is reported for correctional facilities in Tables 1, 2, 3, and 4.

♦ On January 31, 1995, the design capacity for the Departmental Segregation Units (DSU) at MCI-Cedar Junction and MCI-Norfolk were taken off the count sheets. The segregation units are considered support beds and are not shown on the daily count sheet as design capacity. This resulted in the elimination of 91 beds from the previous quarterly reports.

♦ In previous quarterly reports, the population figures for PPREP were included with the Park Drive population. The PPREP population is reported independently starting with the first quarter of 1995.

♦ The population figures for all facilities include both male and female inmates except as shown at Lancaster.

♦ State inmates housed in the Hampshire county contract program are included in the county population tables as are all other state inmates housed in county facilities.

♦ Longwood Treatment Center is a specialized DOC facility for individuals incarcerated for O.U.I. Because the inmates are primarily county sentenced inmates, the inmate count and bed capacity are also included in Tables 3 and 4.

♦ Pondville Correctional Center is a minimum/pre-release security facility formerly known as Norfolk Pre-Release Center.

♦ The Massachusetts Boot Camp opened on August 17, 1992, and is located at the Bridgewater Correctional complex in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. Prior to 1993, the Boot Camp was listed as a DOC minimum security facility. In August, 1995, 128 beds were designated to security level 4. In October, 1995, these beds were added to security level 4 design capacity.

♦ Norfolk County includes Braintree, Dedham, and Norfolk Contract. Middlesex County includes both Billerica and Cambridge. Berkshire County includes the pre-release facility. Essex County includes Middleton, and Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center. Bristol County includes Dartmouth, Eastern Mass. Alternative Center and Pre-Release.

→ Nashua Street inmates housed at other facilities are reported in the counts for the facilities in which they are in custody.

♦ During June, 1993, Plymouth House of Correction added 833 beds increasing its total to 1,140 beds.

♦ On April 18, 1995, new security level changes were established according to 103 DOC 101 Correctional Institutions/Custody Levels policy which states:

Custody Levels:

- **Level One.** The least restrictive in the department and is reserved only for those inmates who are at the end of their sentence and have been identified as posing little to no threat to the community. Supervision is minimal and indirect.

- **Level Two.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate maximum responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions prior to their release. Direct supervision of these inmates is not required, but intermittent observation may be appropriate under certain conditions. Inmates within this level may be permitted to access the community unescorted to participate in programming to include, but not limited to, work release, educational release, etc.

Custody Levels (cont'd.)

- **Level Three.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of returning to the inmate a greater sense of personal responsibility and autonomy while still providing for supervision and monitoring of behavior and activity. Inmates within this security level are not considered a serious risk to the safety of staff, inmates or to the public. Program participation is mandated and geared toward their potential reintegration into the community. Access to the community is limited and under constant direct staff supervision.

- **Level Four.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate some degree of responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions, while still insuring the safety of staff and inmates. Design/construction is generally characterized by high security parameters and limited use of internal physical barriers. Inmates at this level have demonstrated the ability to abide by rules and regulations and require intermittent supervision. However, behavior in the community, i.e., criminal sentence and/or the presence of serious outstanding legal matters indicate the need for some control and for segregation from the community. Job and program opportunities exist for all inmates within the perimeter of the facility.

- **Level Five.** A custody level in which design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates. Inmates accorded to this status may present an escape risk or pose a threat to other inmates, staff, or the orderly running of the institution, however, at a lesser degree than those at level 6. Supervision remains constant and direct. Through an inmates willingness to comply with institutional rules and regulations, increased job and program opportunities exist.

- **Level Six.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates primarily through the use of high security parameters and extensive use of internal physical barriers and check points. Inmates accorded this status present serious escape risks or pose serious threats to themselves, to other inmates, to staff, or the orderly running of the institution. Supervision of inmates is direct and constant. Inmates are confined to their cells at all times, except when they are removed for authorized activities. Inmates within their status, when removed from their cell, are typically under escort and in restraints.

Abbreviations

AC	- Addiction Center	OCCC	- Old Colony Correctional Center
ADP	- Average Daily Population	OUI	- Operating Under the Influence
ATU	- Awaiting Trial Unit	PPREP	- Pre-Parole Residential Environmental Phase Program
CRS	- Contract Residential Services. Includes Charlotte House, and Houston House	PRC	- Pre-Release Center
DDU	- Departmental Disciplinary Unit	SECC	- Southeastern Correctional Center
DOC	- Department of Correction	SDPTC	- Sexually Dangerous Person Treatment Center
DSU	- Departmental Segregation Unit	SMCC	- South Middlesex Correctional Center (formerly SMPRC)
HOC	- House of Correction	SH	- State Hospital
NECC	- Northeastern Correctional Center	TC	- Treatment Center (Longwood)
NCCI	- North Central Correctional Institution at Gardner		

Table 1 provides the DOC figures for the second quarter of 1996. As this table indicates, the DOC population (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, and Longwood TC) increased by 146 inmates, or 1 percent, during the second quarter. At the end of the quarter, the DOC operated with 9,726 inmates in the system, and the average daily population was 9,594 with a design capacity of 6,565. Thus, the DOC operated at 146 percent of design capacity.

**Population in Department of Correction Facilities
April 1, 1996 to June 28, 1996**

Custody Level/ Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Custody Level 6					
Cedar Junction	808	804	819	633	128%
Framingham - ATU	106	92	103	64	166%
Custody Level 5					
OCCC	718	724	734	488	147%
Custody Level 4					
Concord	1,042	1,020	1,113	514	203%
Framingham	484	490	491	388	125%
Norfolk	1,336	1,340	1,332	988	135%
Bay State	294	294	295	266	111%
NCCI	1,019	1,019	1,018	568	179%
SECC	870	875	854	456	191%
Shirley-Medium	1,103	1,093	1,109	720	153%
Mass. Boot Camp	112	104	120	128	88%
Sub-Total	7,892	7,855	7,988	5,213	151%
Custody Level 3					
Plymouth	180	177	185	151	119%
NECC	237	251	228	150	158%
SECC-Minimum	100	107	127	100	100%
Shirley-Lower	352	347	348	403	87%
Custody Level 3/2					
Lancaster-Male	206	204	208	94	219%
Lancaster-Female	64	59	71	59	108%
Pondville	195	189	200	100	195%
SMCC	160	174	155	125	128%
Sub-Total	1,494	1,508	1,522	1,182	126%
Custody Level 2					
Boston State	98	101	99	55	178%
Park Drive	48	47	50	50	96%
Hodder House	28	32	29	35	80%
Custody Level 1					
Charlotte	7	7	8	15	47%
Houston House	9	10	10	15	60%
PREPP	18	20	20	n.a	n.a
Sub-Total	208	217	216	170	122%
Total	9,594	9,580	9,726	6,565	146%
Bridgewater SH	329	328	313	227	145%
Bridgewater TC	247	247	249	216	114%
Bridgewater AC	134	135	127	214	63%
Longwood TC	137	137	133	125	110%
Sub-Total	847	847	822	782	108%
Grand Total	10,441	10,427	10,548	7,347	142%
Houses of Correction	725	630	837	n.a	n.a
Federal Prisons	35	29	30	n.a	n.a
Inter-State Contract	330	348	334	n.a	n.a

Table 2 provides the DOC figures for the previous twelve months - i.e., for the period April 1, 1995 to March 29, 1996. These figures indicate that the DOC population increased by 177, or 2 percent, over this twelve month period (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, and Longwood TC), from 9,371 in April, 1995 to 9,548 in March, 1996.

**Population in Department of Correction Facilities -
April 1, 1995 to March 29, 1996**

Custody Level/ Facility	Average Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Custody Level 6					
Cedar Junction	769	714	799	633	121%
Framingham - ATU	101	92	88	64	158%
Custody Level 5					
OSCC	730	728	725	488	150%
Custody Level 4					
Concord	1,012	1,014	1,020	514	197%
Framingham	466	478	506	388	120%
Norfolk	1,331	1,337	1,340	988	135%
Bay State	297	296	294	266	112%
NCCI	1,012	1,014	1,020	568	178%
SECC	837	754	873	456	184%
Shirley-Medium	1,079	1,086	1,094	720	150%
* Mass. Boot Camp	73	0	80	128	57%
Sub-Total	7,707	7,513	7,839	5,213	148%
Custody Level 3					
Plymouth	179	177	172	151	119%
NECC	277	259	252	150	185%
SECC-Minimum	159	173	105	100	159%
Custody Level 3/2					
Lancaster-Male	191	203	204	94	203%
Lancaster-Female	66	69	60	59	112%
Pondville	190	195	189	100	190%
Shirley-Lower	356	399	333	403	88%
SMCC	179	163	178	125	143%
Sub-Total	1,597	1,638	1,493	1,182	135%
Custody Level 2					
Boston State	98	96	101	55	178%
Park Drive	47	44	47	50	94%
Hodder House	24	30	32	35	69%
Custody Level 1					
Charlotte	11	12	7	15	73%
Houston House	8	10	10	15	53%
PREPP	22	28	19	n.a.	n.a
Sub-Total	210	220	216	170	124%
Total	9,514	9,371	9,548	6,565	145%
Bridgewater SH	334	324	329	227	147%
Bridgewater TC	207	209	247	216	96%
Bridgewater AC	160	170	142	214	75%
Longwood TC	143	151	141	125	114%
Sub-Total	959	911	900	782	123%
Grand Total	10,473	10,282	10,448	7,347	143%
Houses of Correction	878	918	859	n.a	n.a
Federal Prisons	28	28	29	n.a	n.a
Inter-State Contract	176	69	348	n.a	n.a

(* = See Technical Notes)

Table 3 presents the county figures for the second quarter of 1996. The county population decreased by 15 inmates during this quarter. At the end of the quarter, the county system operated with 11,773 inmates, and the average daily population was 11,725 in facilities with a total design capacity of 8,113. Thus, the county system operated at 145 percent of design capacity.

**Population in County Correctional Facilities,
April 1, 1996 to June 28, 1996**

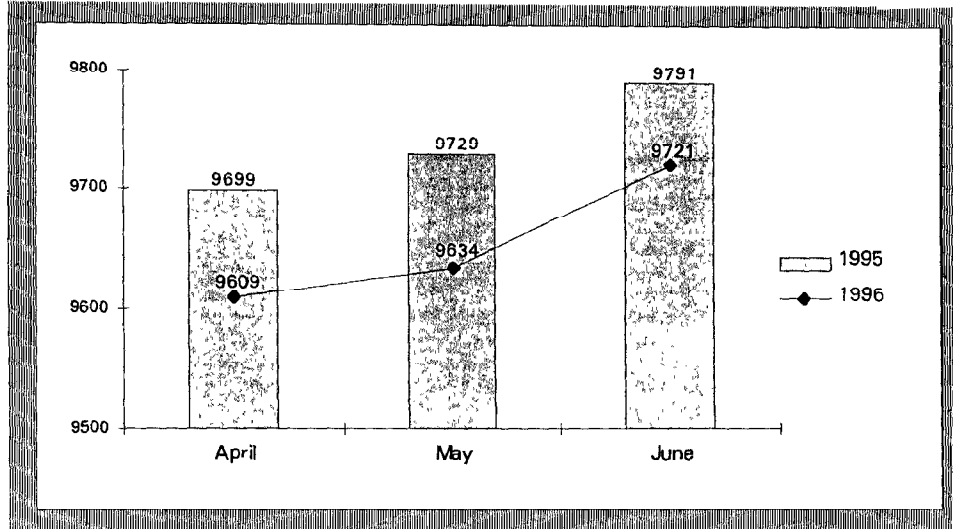
Facility	Average Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	276	284	264	110	251%
Berkshire	243	245	237	116	209%
Bristol	1,138	1,139	1,150	666	171%
Dukes	20	20	20	19	105%
Essex	1,395	1,431	1,357	635	220%
Franklin	126	133	127	63	200%
Hampden	1,473	1,460	1,470	1,178	125%
Hampden-OUI	129	131	135	125	103%
Hampshire	258	268	254	248	104%
Middlesex	1,257	1,257	1,268	792	159%
Norfolk	561	572	556	379	148%
Plymouth	1,166	1,193	1,170	1,140	102%
Suffolk-Nashua St	571	584	600	453	126%
Suffolk-So. Bay	1,581	1,579	1,591	1,146	138%
Worcester	1,207	1,199	1,219	790	153%
Longwood TC	137	137	133	125	110%
Mass. Boot Camp	187	156	222	128	146%
Total	11,725	11,788	11,773	8,113	145%

Table 4 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months. These figures indicate that the county population increased by 716 inmates or 7 percent over this twelve-month period, from 10,953 in April 1995, to 11,669 in March 1996.

**Population in County Correctional Facilities,
April 1, 1995 to March 29, 1996**

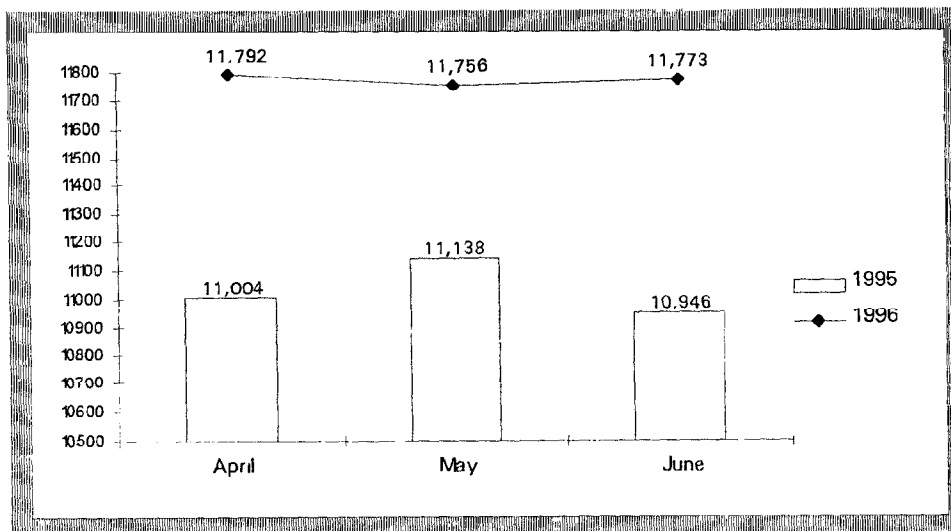
Facility	Average Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	278	276	287	110	253%
Berkshire	227	239	255	116	196%
Bristol	1,078	1,013	1,142	666	162%
Dukes	23	20	17	19	121%
Essex	1,280	1,170	1,297	635	202%
Franklin	131	130	128	63	208%
Hampden	1,455	1,466	1,442	1,178	124%
Hampden-OUI	134	260	132	125	107%
Hampshire	249	223	263	248	100%
Middlesex	1,271	1,267	1,257	792	160%
Norfolk	556	555	584	379	147%
Plymouth	1,093	1,045	1,184	1,140	96%
Suffolk-Nashua St	552	515	598	453	122%
Suffolk-So. Bay	1,483	1,441	1,577	1,146	129%
Worcester	1,121	1,064	1,210	790	142%
Longwood TC	143	151	141	125	114%
Mass. Boot Camp	103	118	155	128	80%
Total	11,177	10,953	11,669	8,113	138%

Figure 1.
DOC Sentenced Population, Second Quarter of 1995 and 1996



The graph above compares the DOC sentenced population in 1995 to that in 1996. In the second quarter of 1996, the DOC sentenced population decreased by 1% each month from the same period in 1995.

Figure 2.
HOC Population, Second Quarter of 1995 and 1996



The graph above compares the HOC population in 1995 to that in 1996. In April, 1996 the HOC population increased by 7% from the same month in 1995; in May, 1996 the increase was 6%; and in June, 8 percent.

Note: Data for Figures 1 and 2 were taken from the end of the month count sheets compiled by the Classification Division.

Table 5 provides statistics on court commitments to the DOC in 1995 and 1996 by gender. Overall, there has been a decrease of 400, or minus 20 percent, in commitments for 1996 in comparison with the number of commitments in 1995, from 1,991 to 1,591. Male commitments for the second quarter of 1996 decreased by 65, or minus 11 percent when compared to the 1995 figure. Commitments to Framingham (females) during the second quarter decreased by 120, or minus 29 percent compared to the number of commitments during the same period of 1995.

Court Commitments to the DOC by Gender			
	1995	1996	Difference
MALES			
First Quarter	636	528	-17%
Second Quarter	577	512	-11%
Sub-total	1213	1040	-14%
FEMALES			
First Quarter	367	260	-29%
Second Quarter	411	291	-29%
Sub-total	778	551	-29%
Total	1991	1591	-20%

Figure 3 provides a graphical representation of the number of court commitments to the DOC for males and females during the second quarter of 1995 and the second quarter of 1996.

